

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 215802 TOSEC 250003

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT MAPUTO 981 ACTION SECSTATE 31 AUG 1976

QUOTE S E C R E T MAPUTO 0981

NODIS

AF FOR SCHAUFLE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MZ, US

SUBJECT: SCHAUFLE MEETING WITH MACHEL

REF: (A) MAPUTO 0976; (B) MAPUTO 977

1. FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF MY PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS
ON THE SCHAUFLE-MACHEL MEETING THAT MAY BE USEFUL
IN DECIDING HOW TO DEAL WITH MACHEL.

2. FIRST, I WAS IMPRESSED WITH HOW WELL-PREPARED
MACHEL WAS FOR THE MEETING. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE
IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH NYERERE AND AUNDA. THIS WE
KNEW. HE ALSO UTILIZED A BRIEFING BOOK WHICH
APPEARED TO HAVE EXTENSIVE TALKING POINTS ON RHO-

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DESIA, NAMIBIA, SOUTH AFRICA, AND INDIAN OCEAN.

MACHEL OBVIOUSLY TOOK MEETING SERIOUSLY.

3. SECOND, HE GAVE EVERY INDICATION OF KEEPING THIS STRICTLY HIS SHOW. THE ONLY MOZAMBICANS AT MEETING WERE ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER PANGUENE AND DIRECTOR AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PRESIDENTIAL STAFF, SERGIO VIEIRA (INTERPRETER) AND LUIS HONWANA (BACKUP INTERPRETER AND NOTETAKER). PANGUENE'S ROLE AT MEETING WAS ESSENTIALLY THAT OF A STAFF AIDE (HE SAID NOTHING, TOOK NOTES). I BELIEVE MACHEL WILL CONTINUE TO HANDLE THIS MATTER PRETTY MUCH BY HIMSELF.

4. THIRD, I CONCLUDED FROM THE DISCUSSION AND THE SURPRISINGLY PROMINENT AND FAIR PRESS COVERAGE OF SCHAUFLE VISIT THAT MACHEL HAS NOT FORECLOSED POSSIBILITY OF ASSOCIATING HIMSELF EVENTUALLY WITH OUR INITIATIVE. GIVEN MACHEL'S FREQUENT PUBLIC WARNINGS ABOUT THE DANGERS OF TREATING WITH THE "IMPERIALISTS, CAPITALISTS, AND NEO-COLONIALISTS," AND THE IMPORTANCE HE HAS PLAYED ON THE ARMED STRUGGLE, HIS WILLINGNESS EVEN TO BE SEEN TALKING TO A SENIOR USG OFFICIAL ABOUT PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM IS A PLUS FOR US.

5. I DO NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT MACHEL MAY AT SOME POINT DECIDE HE WANTS NOTHING MORE TO DO WITH OUR EFFORT, AND THAT HE MAY EVEN GO SO FAR AS TO TRY TO PLAY A SPOILER ROLE. THIS HE IS CERTAINLY IN POSITION TO DO: HE CAN CREATE DIFFICULTIES FOR US WITH SOME OF THE ZIMBABWEAN LIBERATION LEADERS; HE CAN TRY TO MAKE IT EMBARRASSING FOR NYERERE OR KAUNDA TO GO ALONG WITH US; AND HE CAN TAKE BILATERAL ACTION VIS-A-VIS THE SOVIETS OR CUBANS WHICH WOULD CREATE MAJOR COMPLICATIONS FOR US.

6. ONE OF THE BIGGEST THINGS GOING FOR US IN KEEPING MACHEL IN THE PICTURE IS HIS VANITY. HE WANTS VERY MUCH TO BE WHERE THE ACTION IS AND TO BE A PARTICIPANT RATHER THAN A SPECTATOR. AS LONG AS HE FEELS HIS INCLUSIO IN THE SCHEME OF THINGS IS NOT MERELY FOR

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APPEARANCE PURPOSES--AND THAT HE CAN INFLUENCE THE COURSE OF EVENTS--HE WILL BE TEMPTED TO STAY IN THE ACT.

7. THERE WERE THREE POINTS IN SCHAUFLE'S PRESENTATION THAT IN MY OPINION WERE PARTICULARLY TELLING AND EFFECTIVE WITH MACHEL. FIRST WAS POINT THAT AFRICAN LEADERS, INCLUDING MACHEL, HAVE LONG BEEN

URGING USG TO USE ITS INFLUENCE WITH VORSTER TO APPLY PRESSURE ON SMITH; NOW THAT WE ARE DOING THIS, WE DESERVE AFRICAN SUPPORT. FACT THAT WE PREPARED EXERT INFLUENCE AT HIGHEST LEVEL (I.E. KISSINGER-VORSTER LEVEL) IMPRESSES MACHEL. SECOND POINT WAS THAT THE FRONT-LINE AFRICAN LEADERS ARE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR WORKING WITH THE ZIMBABWEAN LIBERATION LEADERS AND SWAPO. SINCE MACHEL HAS BEEN SUSPICIOUS THAT WE WOULD SEEK TO PROMOTE FORTUNES OF THE "MODERATE" ZIMBABWEAN LIBERATION LEADERS, FACT THAT WE ARE PREPARED LET ZIMBABWEANS AND AFRICAN FRONT-LINE LEADERS SORT OUT ZIMBABWEAN LEADERSHIP ISSUE MADE IMPRESSION ON HIM. FINALLY, SCHAUFELLE'S WARNING THAT INTERVENTION OF OUTSIDE POWERS WOULD HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES WAS NOT LOST ON MACHEL.

8. ON BASIS MY KNOWLEDGE OF MACHEL, I BELIEVE MEETING WENT ABOUT AS WELL AS COULD BE EXPECTED. MACHEL HAS BY MEANS SAID HE WOULD COOPERATE, BUT HE GAVE NO INDICATION THAT HE WAS TURNED OFF BY ANY OF THE ELEMENTS OF OUR APPROACH, AND, IN FACT, WAS PROBABLY ATTRACTED BY SOME OF THEM. DE PREE UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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